

LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION.

The Lewis and Clark Expedition West started its 200th year anniversary at Thomas Jefferson's home in Monticello, Va. this January. Roger Daniels, who spoke at our November meeting, was one of the representatives from the state of Washington. The following relates the part of the trip when the explorers visited our area:

Sunday, November 3, 1805: While canoeing down the south side of the Columbia River, they checked out the "Quicksand," (Sandy) River. Due to a large sand island in the Columbia, between its two mouths, they were forced to the north side of the Columbia River. Here they noted the "Seal," (Washougal) River, named for the seals gathered at its mouth.

March 31, 1806: On their way home they camped on the north side of the Columbia River at a handsome prairie above "Whitebrant," (Lady) Island. The site is now Cottonwood Beach southeast of Washougal. Talking with natives they learned that food was short on the east side of the Cascade Mountains. Lewis and Clark decided to stay here and set up a provision camp before crossing the Cascades. The most important knowledge obtained from this stay was learning of a large tributary and falls on the south side of the Columbia River a few miles back down the Columbia. Their trip from the Seal River to the coast in both directions had been on the north side of the Columbia River. This retracing of the Columbia River on the south side allowed them the opportunity to travel south of islands that on previous trips, hid the view of the mouth of the "Multnomah," (Willamette) River. This is the one main tributary on the lower Columbia River. Clark mapped it.

Sunday, April 6: The Expedition continued homeward bound.